

FOUR NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES IN VIOLA (VIOLACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

In keeping with the use of varieties for infraspecific taxa in the treatment of *Viola* for the *Flora of North America*, four nomenclatural changes are proposed here to achieve consistency.

RESUMEN

De acuerdo con el uso de variedades para taxa infraspecificos en el tratamiento de *Viola* para la Flora de Norteamérica, se proponen aquí cuatro cambios nomenclaturales para conseguir coherencia.

Viola epipsila Ledeb. var. **repens** (Turcz. ex Trautv. & C.A. Mey.) R.J. Little, stat. nov. BASIONYM: *Viola repens* Turcz. ex Trautv. & C.A. Mey., Fl. Ochot. (Aus A. Th. v. Middendorff's. Sibir. Reise Band 1 Theil 2 besonders abgedruckt) 18. 1856, non Schwein. 1822. *Viola epipsila* subsp. *repens* (Turcz. ex Trautv. & C.A. Mey.) W. Becker, Bot. Centralbl. Beiheft 34(2):406. 1917.

The acaulescent, rhizomatous, *V. epipsila* var. *epipsila* occurs in Europe and northwest Asia. *Viola epipsila* var. *repens* occurs in Europe, eastern Asia, Alaska, and western Canada. Variety *repens* differs from var. *epipsila* by its smaller size, its glabrous, abaxial leaf surfaces (Baird 1942), by its distinctly acute leaves, and larger flowers (Sorsa 1968). Baird and Sorsa noted that bracteoles of *V. epipsila* occur above the middle of the peduncle, a character used to differentiate it from *V. palustris*. The Violaceae treatment in the recent *Flora of China* (Yousheng et al. 2008) treated *V. repens* as a synonym of *V. epipsiloides* A. Löve & D. Löve. However, other authors do not recognize *V. epipsiloides* and consider *V. repens* as a subspecies of *V. epipsila* (Cody 2000; Douglas 2000; Karlsson et al. 2008).

Viola pedatifida G. Don var. **brittoniana** (Pollard) R.J. Little & L.E. McKinney, stat. nov. BASIONYM: *Viola brittoniana* Pollard, Bot. Gaz. 26:332. 1898. *Viola pedatifida* G. Don. subsp. *brittoniana* (Pollard) L.E. McKinney, Sida, Bot. Misc. 7:22. 1992.

This violet was originally described as *V. atlantica* by N.L. Britton (1897), but the name was invalid due to an earlier homonym. Britton considered this violet as simulating *V. pedatifida* apparently making him the first to consider the affinity between var. *brittoniana* and *V. pedatifida*. Both are homophyllous species and are quite similar in many other characters leading L.E. McKinney (1992) to follow Britton's lead and to fully establish the relationship between these two taxa. *Viola pectinata* is considered to be a sporadic form and as Russell (1965) suggested, is likely due to genetic dimorphism. Additional studies are necessary before considering *V. pectinata* as anything other than a dimorphic form.

Viola praemorsa Douglas ex Lindl. var. **flavovirens** (Pollard) R.J. Little, stat. nov. BASIONYM: *Viola flavovirens* Pollard, Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 24:405. 1897. *Viola praemorsa* Douglas ex Lindl. subsp. *flavovirens* (Pollard) Fabijan, Canad. J. Bot. 65:2579. 1987.

Piper and Beattie (1914) and subsequent authors treated this taxon as synonymous with *V. praemorsa* ssp. *major* sensu Baker (Fabijan et al. 1987). The size of the basal and cauline leaves are among the diagnostic features separating the three varieties of *V. praemorsa*. The basal and cauline leaves of var. *flavovirens* are usually longer (basal to 17 cm long; cauline to 14.8 cm long) and wider (basal to 6.7 cm wide; cauline to 5.5 cm wide) than vars. *linguaefolia* or *praemorsa* (basal to 8.5 cm long, to 3.7 cm wide; cauline to 8 cm long, to 3.5 cm wide). Fabijan et al. (1987) reported that Baker and Clausen annotated herbarium sheets with *flavovirens* as a subspecies or variety of *praemorsa* indicating that they recognized the taxon. However, no revision of its taxonomic status had been published prior to Fabijan (Fabijan et al. 1987).

Viola sororia Willd. var. **grisea** (Fernald) L.E. McKinney, comb. nov. BASIONYM: *V. septentrionalis* Greene var. *grisea* Fernald, Rhodora 37:301, pl. 375. 1935. *Viola sororia* Willd. var. *novae-angliae* (House) McKinney, Sida, Bot. Misc. 7:44. 1992. *Viola novae-angliae* House, Rhodora 6:226. 1904.

Gil-Ad (1997) considered *Viola novae-angliae* to be a distinct species as did Ballard and Gawler (1994); they suggested it might be a hybrid derivative between *V. sororia* and *V. sagittata*. Brainerd (1921) considered it closely related to *V. septentrionalis*, which is included in *V. sororia* var. *sororia* in the forthcoming FNA treatment.

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